

WEST VIRGINIA SUPPORTS HIS PRESIDENTIAL ASPIRATIONS.

MAJORITY AGAINST TAFT

President Defeated in Important County Primary.

DEMOCRATIC CONTEST NEXT

Active Preliminary Campaign by the Supporters, Respectively, of Clark and Wilson.

Special Correspondence of The Star.

WHEELING, W. Va., April 27, 1912.

A solid delegation from West Virginia for Roosevelt is indicated by the returns from the counties that have so far had a test of strength between the Taft and Roosevelt forces, but the Taft men have not given up all hope of slipping away with two delegates from the first district.

The Taft men, who are now carrying Harrison, Brooke and Hancock counties, which are yet to vote, they will have enough to control the district convention, which meets at New Martinsville in May.

Teddy this week without the semblance of a contest seems to foreshadow an unexpected Taft loss in the fifth district.

The first and fifth districts are, respectively, in the northern and southern extremities of the state, and not long ago were considered almost certain for Taft.

The third, likewise, had a Taft look, with ex-Representative Joseph H. Gaines leading the President's cause, but in Kanawha, the biggest county in the district, will go for Roosevelt without a struggle.

Taft has secured a minority in Kanawha, and some of the delegates claimed for Roosevelt will be contested, which is a situation in Kanawha seems to settle the thing.

In fact, certain Taft leaders privately admit that West Virginia is now a Republican state.

The Roosevelt leaders say there is nothing more to it and that they will have the district delegates follow up their victory by succeeding ex-Senator R. B. Scott, as national committee member, who has been working hard moving the headquarters of the delegation from the Ozark to the North.

Twenty-six men and two officers of the naval militia took the Ozark to the North, and the ship is expected to arrive in Baltimore on Wednesday.

The day of the John Paul Jones parade, the ship is expected to arrive in Baltimore on Wednesday.

The crew was disappointed at not being able to get the Ozark into drydock, as the keel blocks Thursday, and the water was pumped from around the hull.

The Naval Battalion has set a record for long-distance hikes. April 14 a squad started on a practice march to Baltimore.

Effort on to Have Virginia's Delegates Instructed.

DISAGREE ON PRIMARIES

Complete Reversal of Sentiment Is Observed in Richmond.

STATE FARMERS DEVELOPING

Big Venue for the Allens—Penitentiary Base Ball League—Soldiers Cannot Vote.

Special Dispatch to The Star.

RICHMOND, Va., April 27.—I propose to write a little declaration of independence of my own.

It is being quoted as having been given by Speaker Richard E. Byrd of Winchester in a speech in Petersburg in behalf of Gov. Woodrow Wilson.

Mr. Byrd is the change of the political fortunes of the former Virginia governor, who is now engaged in an effort to have the delegation to Baltimore instructed. He declares that he will force the fighting on the floor of the convention, and that he will lend energies and influence against any idea of sending to Baltimore a delegation from Old Dominion a delegate who is not instructed for Gov. Wilson.

When the pronouncement of Mr. Byrd is given consideration it sounds very much like he has set himself up against the recognized power in the state, all of whom, according to report, are said to oppose the New Jersey executive and to be in favor of Mr. Woodrow Wilson.

The statement of Mr. Byrd is thought to mean that the delegation from Gov. Wilson, who was his classmate in the University of Virginia, regardless of what the "news" may say, is not to be the officers who are away from the people and the people demand. He takes the ground that the people are entitled to have a choice in the selection of a delegate to the government and in naming the officers, and he is firm in his conviction that the people of the state should not be instructed by delegates, but that they should be left free to vote for any man who may be deemed suitable after the convention has assembled.

Disagree on Primaries.

Some ten years ago—possibly a dozen years—the democrats in the state frowned down the convention plan of nominating officers of any sort, and provided that the people should be allowed to have a voice in naming all candidates, including the delegates to the convention.

It was the only one of a moment, that of last year being of such a character that it could not be repeated.

Here in Richmond, where the primary was so strong, there has been a complete reversal of sentiment, and the guard was always opposed to primaries and the reformers wanted them.

Now the primary is the only one of a moment, that of last year being of such a character that it could not be repeated.

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THE COMPLETION OF THE PANAMA CANAL

will convert the countries of the Caribbean into a theatre of world politics of intense and even paramount interest to the people of the United States. The stories of these countries and their present and prospective international relations will be fully and concisely told in a series of daily articles by Frederic J. Haskin

Beginning in this newspaper on Wednesday May the First

Value of Virginia

H. Walker Shepherd, Horseman, Dies of Pneumonia.

BUILDING NEW STATION

Norfolk and Western Railway Making Improvements at Riverton.

COMPANY GRANTED CHARTER

Ore Will Be Sought by Concern Organized at Staunton—Will Lose Damages.

Special Correspondence of The Star.

WINCHESTER, Va., April 27, 1912.

H. Walker Shepherd, owner of the horse show patrons all over Virginia, died of pneumonia.

He was fifty-six years old. His funeral, which was held at the Winchester Baptist Church yesterday, was largely attended.

Archibald Smith, a well known Frederick county farmer, is in a serious condition as a result of having all the ligaments in the fingers of one hand lacerated by a maul with which he was accidentally struck while working on the farm.

Two juries were locked up in the courthouse at Martinsburg the other night, for the purpose of deciding upon the verdict in the case of a man who had been charged with the murder of a woman.

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GIANT TOWER BLOWN DOWN

German Structure, 680 Feet High, Based by Gale.

Special Correspondence of The Star.

BERLIN, April 27.—During a violent gale the great iron tower of the wireless station at Neuendorf, near Potsdam, was blown down. Nobody was hurt.

The tower, which was 680 feet high, was built by the German government, and was capable of withstanding a gale of 100 miles an hour.

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